

Banned Books

Learn what banned books are and about the history of banned, burned and challenged books. See classic books that have been banned elsewhere that are available in COM Library.

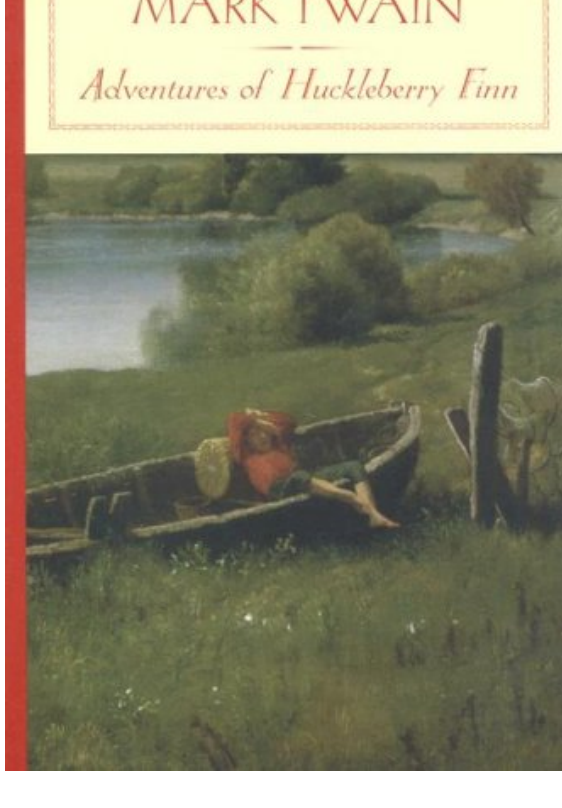
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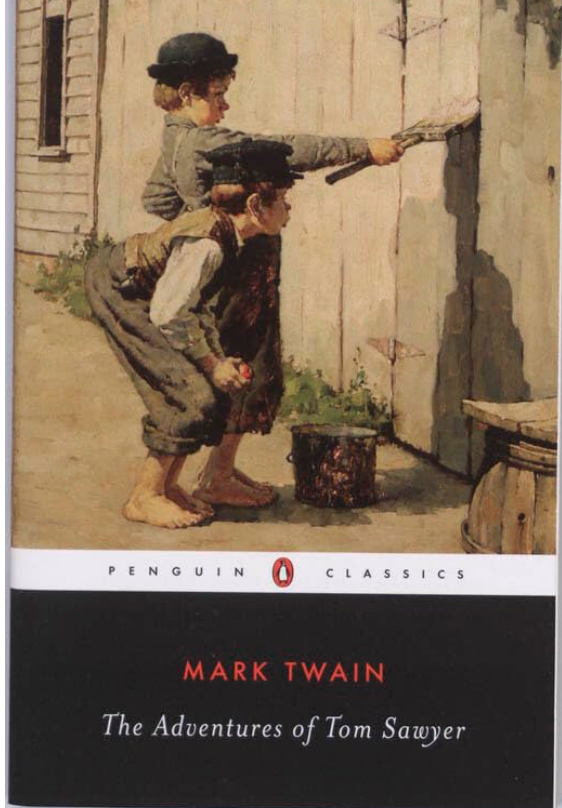
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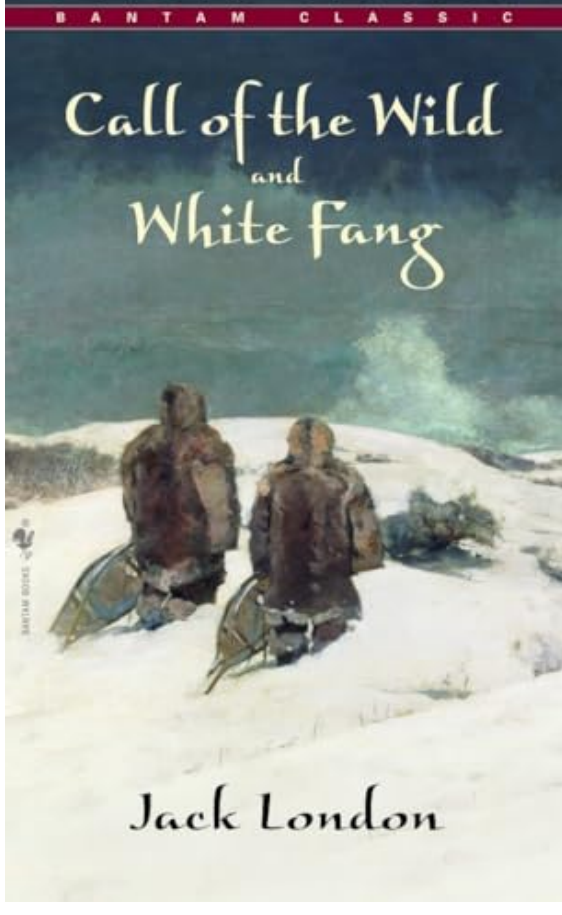
[The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain](#)

Why: Racially offensive--From Christian Science Monitor's Books that have Been Challenged. Racism, insensitivity and offensive language. Source: The Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2002.



[The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain](#)

Why: In Mark Twain's lifetime, his books Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn were excluded from the juvenile sections of the Brooklyn Public library (among other libraries), and banned from the library in Concord, MA. In recent years, some high schools have dropped Huckleberry Finn from their reading lists, or have been sued by parents who want the book dropped



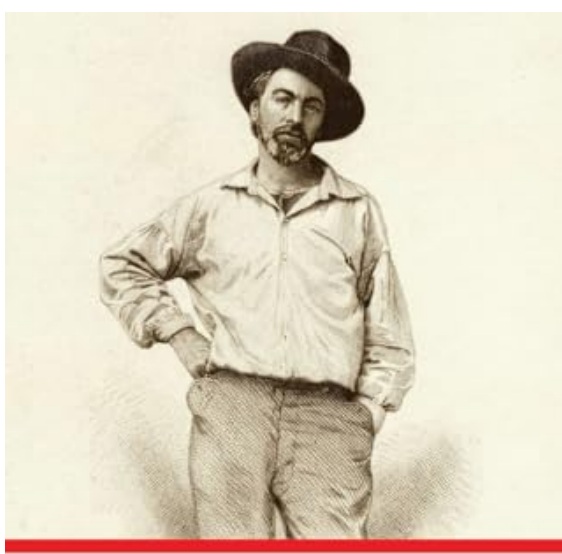
[The Call of the Wild by Jack London](#)

Why: Censored in several European dictatorships in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1929, Italy banned all editions of his Call of the Wild, and that same year Yugoslavia banned all his works as being "too radical".



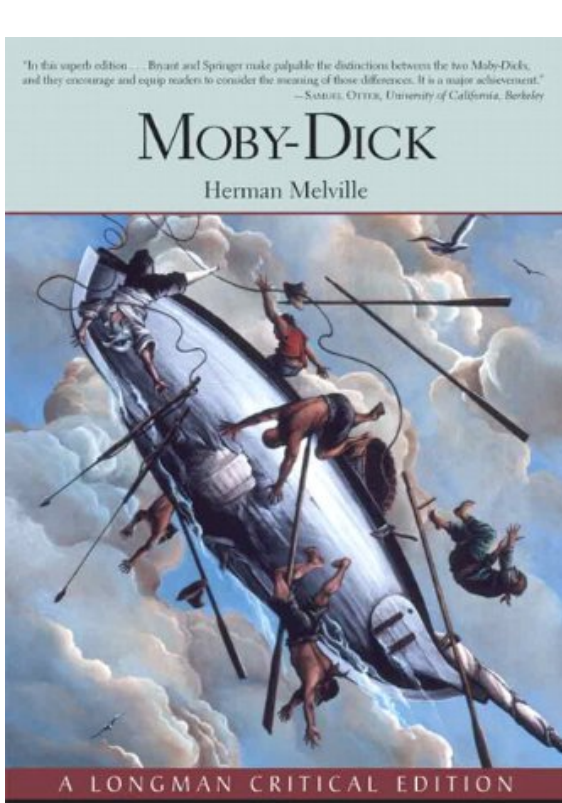
[The Jungle by Upton Sinclair](#)

Why: Banned from public libraries in Yugoslavia (1929). Burned in the Nazi bonfires because of Sinclair's socialist views (1933). Banned in East Germany (1956) as inimical to communism. Banned in South Korea (1985).



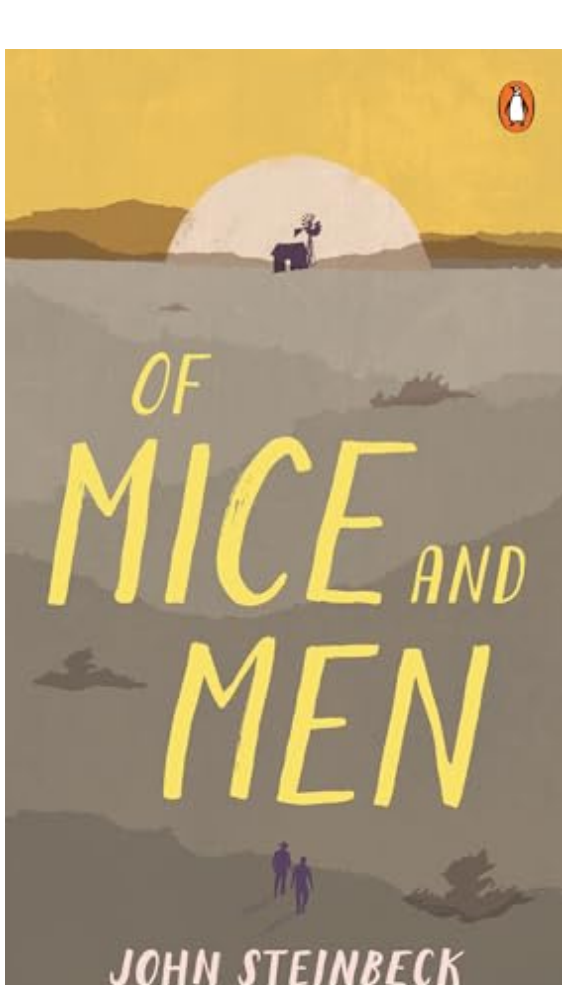
[Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman](#)

Why: Withdrawn in Boston in 1881, after the District Attorney threatened criminal prosecution for the use of explicit language in some poems.



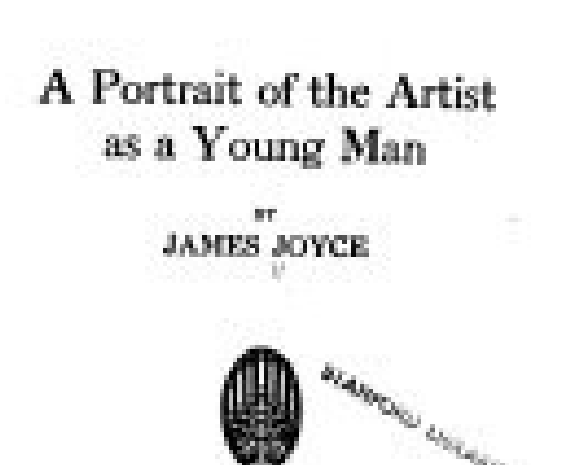
[Moby Dick by Herman Melville](#)

Why: Conflicts with values of the community--From Christian Science Monitor's Books that have Been Challenged.



[Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck](#)

Why: Racial/Ethnic, Political/Economic/Social Opinion, Language; Offensive Language. Source: FileRoom; Ten Most Challenged Books of 2003



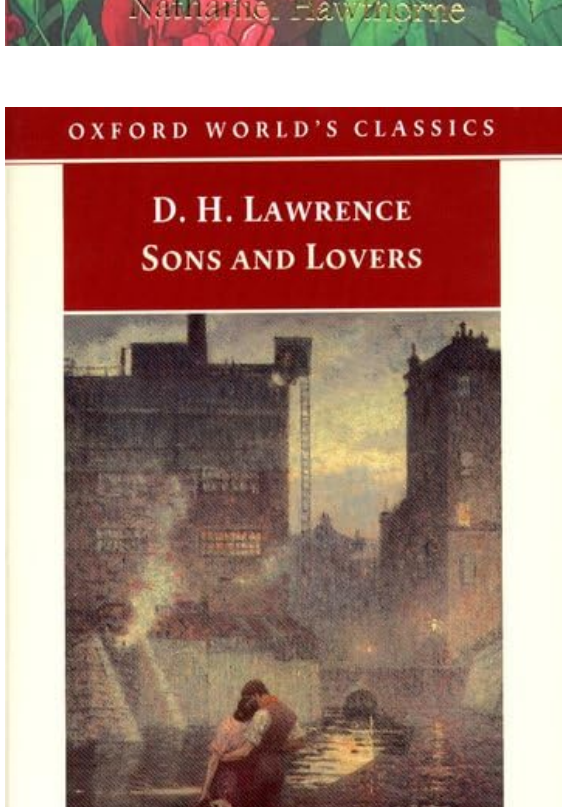
[A PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN by James Joyce](#)

Why: Banned under the US Federal Anti-Obsecenity Act (AKA Comstock Law). Source: FileRoom.



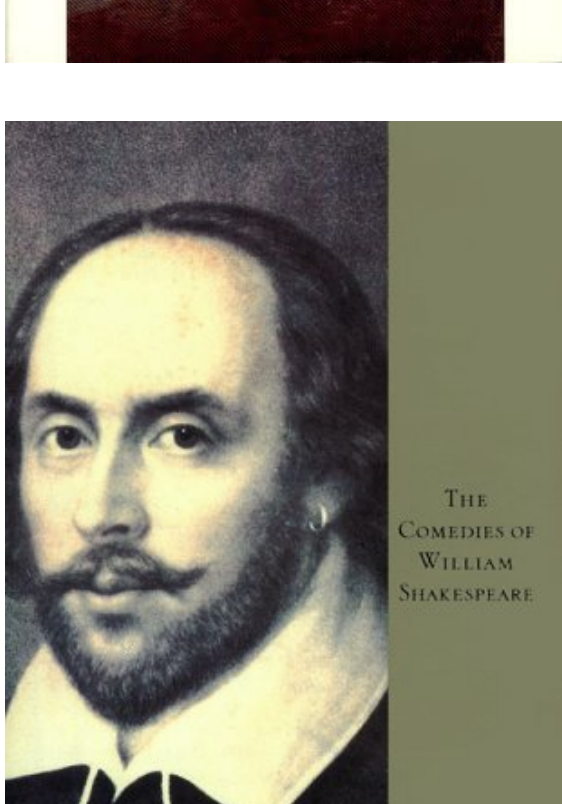
[The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne](#)

Why: Conflicts with values of the community--Christian Science Monitor's Books that have Been Challenged.



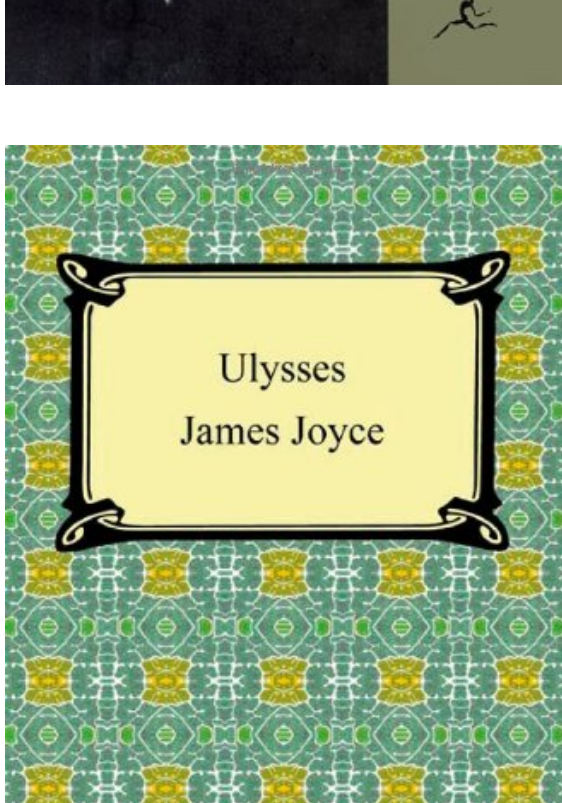
[Sons and Lovers by D.H. Lawrence](#)

Why: In 1961 an Oklahoma City group called Mothers United for Decency hired a trailer, dubbed it "smutmobile," and displayed books deemed objectionable, including Lawrence's novel. Source: 2004 Banned Books Resource Guide



[Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare](#)

Why: Encourages homosexuality.



[Ulysses by James Joyce](#)

Why: Obscenity. Not just banned, but burned in US, Canada, England and Ireland, even after critical acclaim

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- He who destroyes a good Booke, kills reason it selfe
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- Internet Archive Most Challenged Books Since 2010
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- Smithsonian A Brief History of Banned Books in America
- Wikipedia List of books banned by governments